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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,874	01/16/2002	Muralidhara Padigaru	21402-245 (Cura 545)	7951

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

LANDSMAN, ROBERT S

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

1647

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Applicant No.	Applicant(s)
	10/051,874	PADIGARU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Robert Landsman	1647

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-41 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***1. Election/Restriction***

A. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-4, 29 and 32, drawn to a polypeptide, pharmaceutical composition and a kit, classified in class 530, subclass 350.
- II. Claims 5-14, 30 and 33 drawn to a polynucleotide, vector, host cell, pharmaceutical composition and a kit, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.
- III. Claims 15-17, 31 and 34, drawn to an antibody, a pharmaceutical composition and a kit, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.
- IV. Claim 18, drawn to a method of determining the amount of polypeptide using an antibody, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- V. Claim 19, drawn to a method of determining the amount of nucleic acid using a probe, classified in class 435, subclass 6.
- VI. Claims 20 and 22, drawn to a method of modulating, or identifying an agent which modulates, a polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 7.2.
- VII. Claim 21, drawn to a method of modulating expression of a polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 7.2.
- VIII. Claims 23 and 24, drawn to a method of treating or preventing a NOVX-related disorder by administering a polypeptide, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- IX. Claims 25 and 26, drawn to a method of treating or preventing a NOVX-related disorder by administering a nucleic acid, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
- X. Claims 27 and 28, drawn to a method of treating or preventing a NOVX-related disorder by administering an antibody, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- XI. Claim 35, drawn to a method of manufacturing a medicament, class and subclass undeterminable.
- XII. Claims 36 and 37, drawn to a method of screening for modulators in a recombinant test animal, classified in class 800, subclass 8.
- XIII. Claim 38, drawn to a method of measuring polypeptide levels in a mammal, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- XIV. Claim 39, drawn to a method of determining the presence of a disease associated with altered nucleic acid levels, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

- XV. Claim 40, drawn to a method of treating a condition in a mammal by administering a polypeptide, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- XVI. Claim 41, drawn to a method of treating a pathological state in a mammal by administering an antibody, classified in class 514, subclass 2.

B. The inventions are distinct, each from each other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I, II and III are independent and distinct, each from each other, because they are products which possess characteristic differences in structure and function and each has an independent utility that is distinct for each invention which cannot be exchanged.

Invention I is unrelated to Inventions IV, V, VII, IX, X, XI, XIII, XIV, XVI. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together.

Inventions I and VI, VIII, XII, XV are related as product and processes of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product, or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product MPEP § 806.05(h).

Inventions II and IX, XIV are related as product and processes of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product, or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product MPEP § 806.05(h).

Invention II is unrelated to Inventions IV-VIII, X-XIII, XV, XVI. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together.

Inventions III and IV, X, XVI are related as product and processes of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product, or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product MPEP § 806.05(h).

Invention III is unrelated to Inventions V-IX, XI-XV. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different

functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are not disclosed as capable of use together.

Inventions IV-XVI are independent and distinct, each from the other, because the methods are practiced with materially different process steps for materially different purposes and each method requires a non-coextensive search because of different starting materials, process steps and goals.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and recognized divergent subject matter as defined by MPEP § 808.02, the Examiner has *prima facie* shown a serious burden of search (see MPEP § 803). Therefore, an initial requirement of restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

C. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 CFR § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 (h).

Advisory information

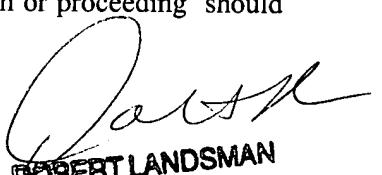
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Landsman whose telephone number is (703) 306-3407. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Eastern time) and alternate Fridays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (Eastern time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz, can be reached on (703) 308-4623.

Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (703) 308-4242. Fax draft or informal communications with the examiner should be directed to (703) 308-0294.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Robert Landsman, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Group 1600
June 03, 2003



ROBERT LANDSMAN
PATENT EXAMINER